either natural or artificial light. They seemed to spend much time skulking between the layers of absorbent paper lining the box. Probably therefore, like certain other *Chrysolina* species, *oricalcia* is largely vespertine or crepuscular in its habits, if not nocturnal, and earlier in the day might have to be sought at the base of the plants. It is recorded from several species of Umbelliferae; the only specimen I ever met with in earlier years was swept in the Thames marshes near Higham, near plants of spotted hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). In July 1962 my friend Dudley Collins found one under cut herbage, mostly *Anthriscus*, at Carshalton Beeches near Croydon. The inclusion of *Populus nigra* among its host-plants by Mohr (1966) seems questionable and probably relates to casual occurrence.

Whether because of the change of foodplant, or for some other reason, my beetles failed to breed – at least, no pairings or eggs were observed after a week. It is hardly likely that both sexes were not present among the seven individuals, though *oricalcia* does appear to be one of our Chrysolinae where the sexes are not readily distinguishable at sight.

This species must not be confused on account of its name with the non-British *C. aurichalcea* Mann. The names are not, however, mere spelling variants; *aurichalcea* 'of gold-bronze', *oricalcia* (a corrupt spelling) 'of mountain bronze', i.e. brass – actually suitable, by the way, only to the var. *hobsoni* Steph. – A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, London SE7.

EPIPHYAS POSTVITTANA (WALK.) (LEP.: TORTRICIDAE) IN MARCH. Col. G. G. Eastwick-Field brought a moth into the museum for identification which proved to be a female *E. postvittana*. It had been found alive inside a shop in Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset on 17th March, 1987 and had been put in a jar for Col. Eastwick-Field who finally saw the specimen on 23rd March. By this time it had died. Bradley & Tremewan (*British Tortricoid moths* 1) give: bivoltine, May to October, the two generations overlapping. We have taken this moth inland as late as early November so presumably it also occurs in that month in warm coastal areas such as Canford Cliffs. As to subsequent larvae, are there any records for the early months of the year thereby making Col. Eastwick-Field's record not so unusual?. B. R. BAKER, Reading Museum.

Current Literature

The insects of Thorne Moors by **P. Skidmore, M. Limbert** and **B. C. Eversham.** The Sorby Record No. 23 (supplement) 1985 (published 1987). 64 pp. Limp. Published by the Sorby Natural History Society, price £2.00 (Available from M. Limbert, 23 Brockenhurst Road, Hatfield, Doncaster).